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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ROBERT P. CASEY, Jr., a Senator from the State of Pennsylvania.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Divine Master, You are our stronghold and the pioneer of our future. Teach us to work with greater faithfulness. May pleasing You become our primary focus as You place a song in our heart for each burden on our shoulders.

Guide our lawmakers today. Lead them to Your fortress of love, patience, and kindness. Remind them that any success alien to Your way is worse than failure and that any failure in Your Spirit is better than gold. Let Your benediction rest upon our Senators, and may they bring their stewardship in line with the destiny You desire for their lives. Make them channels of Your grace and coworkers in the building of Your kingdom.

We pray in Your wonderful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable ROBERT P. CASEY, Jr., led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, January 9, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable ROBERT P. CASEY, Jr., a Senator from the State of Pennsylvania, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. CASEY thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this morning, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 11 a.m. The minority will control the first half and the majority will control the second half. Under a previous order, the Senate will begin consideration of the ethics legislation at 11 a.m., for debate only, until the Senate goes into recess for its normal weekly party conference luncheons.

The managers of the bill will be here at 11 a.m., and they will be making their opening statements, if appropriate, as well as a number of other Members who have expressed an interest in speaking this morning. When the Senate returns after the party luncheons, the substitute amendment will be laid down. So Members should be ready to review this amendment and prepare their amendments accordingly.

I am working with the distinguished Republican leader to see if we can offer something together—I am hopeful and very confident we can—as a substitute amendment.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following the opening statements of Senators FEINSTEIN and BENNETT with respect to S. 1, the following Senators be recognized to

speak for the times specified: Senator TESTER, 10 minutes; Senator NELSON of Florida, 15 minutes; Senator SALAZAR, 15 minutes; and that when the Senate reconvenes at 2:15, debate time be extended for another 30 minutes, with Senators LIEBERMAN and COLLINS recognized for 15 minutes each; that following that time, the majority leader be recognized to offer a substitute amendment.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, let me be very clear that if a Republican Member is available and desires to speak, they would follow a Democratic speaker. We would alternate that. These times only list Democrats, but if there is a Republican, we will insert them between the two, if they want to speak.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

SENATOR ALBEN BARKLEY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, a few months prior to this body's convening last week, I was honored and humbled when my colleagues elected me to serve as the Republican leader in the 110th Congress.

I am thankful for the trust my friends have placed in me, and I won't break that trust.

At such a time as this, and in such an historic Chamber, my thoughts turn toward great Kentuckians of the past who have left their indelible mark on this body.

Henry Clay served as Speaker of the House, Senator, and Secretary of State, despite losing three Presidential campaigns.

John Sherman Cooper served as the conscience of the Senate, and I have

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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